FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS)
PROJECT FACT SHEET
OCTOBER 1996
TAG REVIEW DATE: 15 MAY 1997

1. **SITE NAME:**   Cadiz Lake Air-to-Ground Gunnery Range

    SITE NUMBER: J09CA025300

    LOCATION:
    City: 29 Palms
    County: San Bernardino
    State: California

    PROJECT NUMBER: J09CA025301

    CATEGORY: OE

    INPR RAC: 3

    ASR RAC: 3

    TAG RAC: 3

2. **POC's:**

    TECHNICAL MANAGER: **GEO DISTRICT POC:**
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    GEO DIVISION POC: **HEADQUARTERS POC:**
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    SUPPORT DISTRICT (ASR) POC: **ASR REVIEW POC:**
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3.   SITE DESCRIPTION:

The former Cadiz Lake Air-to-Ground Gunnery Range is located approximately 39 miles northeast of 29 Palms, California, in San Bernardino County. The desert site is primarily a dry lake bed with sand dunes on all sides. There were no documented DOD improvements to the site. Today, there are several active salt evaporators in the dry lake bed with constant truck traffic on the numerous roads running through the site. The site is currently owned by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the State of California, SF Pacific Properties, Inc., and SFP Mineral Corp.

4.   SITE HISTORY:

The Department of Defense (DOD) use of Cadiz Lake Air-to-Ground Gunnery Range officially began in 1946 with the acquisition of 29,440 acres for use by the Fourth Air Force stationed at March Field, California. It is likely that DOD began using the site as early as 1942 because the site is also within the former Desert Training Center (DTC)-California Arizona Maneuver Area (CAMA). The DTC was used by General Patton's Armored Divisions for training in desert warfare in preparation for Operation Torchlight (the Allied invasion of North Africa). Some of this training involved the use of live ordnance.

The site was declared surplus on 2 August 1948.   The Corps of Engineers inspected and dedudded the Cadiz Lake Air-to-Ground Gunnery Range and Sonic Targets. The Corps' 18 June 1948 memo does not elaborate on the munitions found nor how they performed dedudding. By letter dated 21 April 1949, 20,360 acres were relinquished to DOI. 7,200 acres were returned to the Southern Pacific Company and 1,880 acres were returned to the State of California.

In addition to being used as an air-to-ground gunnery range, it is possible the site was used as a radar demolition bombardment range and a photo resolution range.

5.   PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Size, Acres:	29,440
Former Use:	official: air-to-ground gunnery range
	unofficial: maneuver area
Present Use:	Undeveloped & commercial (salt mining)
Probable End Use:	Undeveloped & commercial (salt mining)
Ordnance Presence:	**Confirmed** (by the site team)
Type:	.50 cal. ammunition, complete and expended; bomb debris, HE and practice

6.   CURRENT STATUS: A revised draft Archive Search Report was completed by the US Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District, in October 1996.

7.   STRATEGY: EE/CA

8.   ISSUES AND CONCERNS:

Rough Terrain: A four-wheel-drive vehicle is recommended.

OE contamination outside the site boundary: In a randomly selected area just outside the western boundary of the air-to-ground range, practice bomb debris, a possible crater, an HE fragment, .50 cal. ammunition debris, 76 live .50 cal. rounds, and numerous tank tracks were found. Aside from the practice bomb debris, these items are likely indications of Gen. Patton using the area during World War II. If the OE contamination outside the site boundary is not covered by another INPR, recommend that these contaminated lands be included in J09CA025300.

Bomb Debris: The practice bomb debris may be evidence that the site was used for bombing practice but it is possible that the bombs were dropped accidentally since no marked target was found.

9.   SCHEDULE SUMMARY: EE/CA

10. FUNDING/BUDGET SUMMARY: For Official Use Only